

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application 2002/0046053 to Hare *et al.* Among other things, the Examiner stated that Hare *et al.* discloses “entering a rule into the computer (paragraphs 0026 – 0027).”

Paragraphs 26 – 27 of Hare *et al.* disclose entering data into a computer. For example, paragraph 26 of Hare *et al.* states:

“The next step in the process will be the data entry step 12, described more fully below, and generally requiring the input of data to the system for storage in the databases of the system for future reference, analysis, and calculations. iSolve processing occurs at step 13 and involves the use of the iSolve engine in order to examine the input data stored in the database . . .”

Applicants are not aware of any disclosure in Hare *et al.* that relates to entering a rule into a computer. In order to clarify the meaning of “rule” in the claims, all independent claims have been amended to require that the claimed rule include “a parameter, a parameter operator, and a parameter value.” An example of such a rule follows: “if color = red, then value = 100.” (See original disclosure pg. 6, ln. 9.) In the above rule, the parameter is “color;” the parameter operator is “=;” and the parameter value is “red.” Again, Applicants are not aware of any disclosure in Hare *et al.* that relates to entering into a computer a rule that includes a parameter, a parameter operator, and a parameter value. Thus, Applicant believes that independent claims 1, 20, 21, and 22, together with the dependent claims that depend from them, are allowable over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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